



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

**Southwest Fisheries
Science Center**

Theme V (Agenda Item 7.0) HMS and CPS Assessment Accomplishments Relative to Mandates

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Theme V: Accomplishments Relative to Mandates

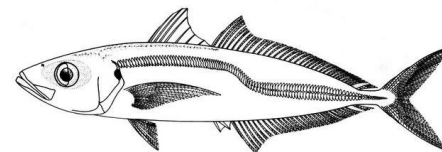
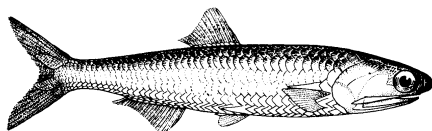
Does the Center achieve adequate assessment accomplishments relative to mandates particularly with respect to the number of Fishery Management Plan (FMP) species assessed?

a) How many FMP and non-FMP stocks are being assessed?

- SWFSC conducts ongoing assessments for 3 of 11 species in the HMS FMP:
 - SWFSC (w/ ISC): albacore tuna, bluefin tuna, and blue shark
 - Benchmark assessments needed for shortfin mako and common thresher sharks
 - PIFSC (w/ ISC): swordfish and striped marlin (SWFSC has rep on Billfish WG)
 - IATTC: yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna and dorado (indicators)



- SWFSC conducts ongoing assessments for 2 of 6 species in the CPS FMP:
 - Pacific sardine and Pacific mackerel assessed on regular basis;
 - Benchmark assessments needed for northern anchovy (northern and central subpopulations) and jack mackerel;
 - Market squid are difficult to assess for current abundance (precautionary yields tied to environment?)



b) Do current and planned fishery stock assessments meet regional, national, and international expectations in terms of quality, quantity and timeliness?

CPS stock assessments:

- ✓ Modeled data are current – ongoing lags and gaps south of U.S.
- ✓ Submitted in time for review, albeit occasionally later than the 2-3 week deadline
- ✓ Assessments and associated reports are thorough and voluminous
- ✓ Successfully passed the STAR panel and SSC review processes (no 'mop-ups' yet...)



HMS stock assessments:

- ✓ Assessment data → management not timely. Significant time lag in data flow to management implementation by RFMOs
- ✓ Reports are not always timely, but recent improvements made in meeting deadlines
- ✓ Standards are still being formed by the ISC & SC
- ✓ NMFS' internal CIE reviews are less critique than guidance and identifying areas for future improvement



c) How well does the Center attain a prioritized portfolio of baseline assessments for all managed CPS stocks (including data-poor) and full assessments for important stocks?

CPS-FMP Stocks (all FSSI)	Level	Pre-	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Pacific sardine (northern)	4						F	U	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	P	F	U
Pacific mackerel	4						F	U	U	F	U	F		F	P	P	P	F
Jack mackerel	1	1983																
Northern anchovy (northern)	0																	
Northern anchovy (central)	4	1995																
Market squid	2																	

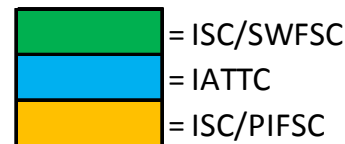
F = Full

U = Update

P = Projection (catch-only)

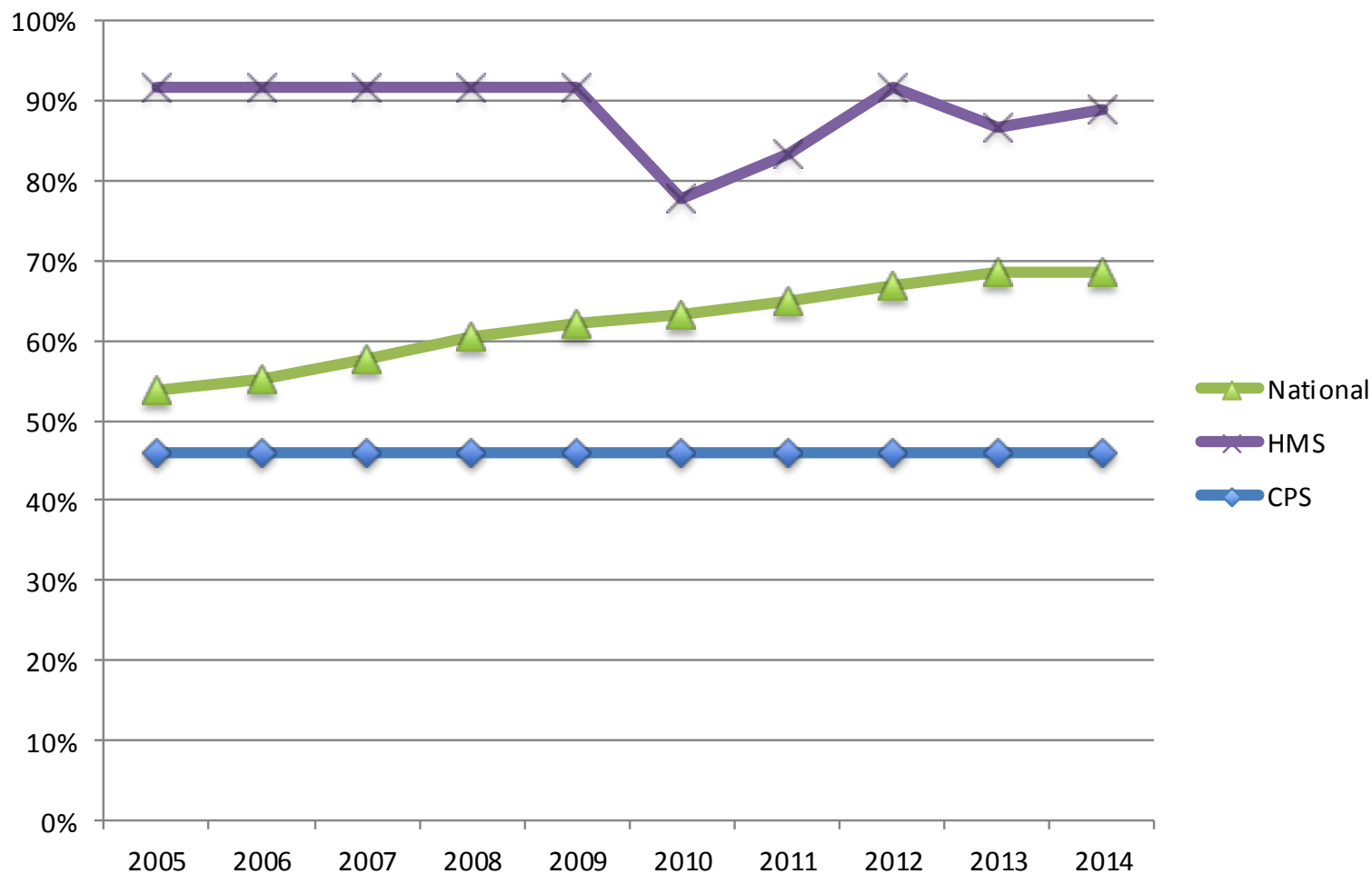
c) How well does the Center attain a prioritized portfolio of baseline assessments for all managed HMS stocks (including data-poor) and full assessments for important stocks?

HMS-FMP Stocks	Level	Pre-	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Tunas																
Albacore (NPO)	4															
Bluefin (NPO)	4															
Yellowfin (EPO)	4															
Bigeye (EPO)	4															
Skipjack (EPO)	1															
Billfishes																
Striped marlin (EPO)	4	2003														
Striped marlin (NPO)	4															
Swordfish (EPO)	3															
Swordfish (NPO)	3															
Sharks																
Blue shark (NPO)	4	2001														
Shortfin mako shark (NPO)*																
Common thresher shark (EPO)*	1	2001														
Other																
Dorado (EPO)	0															



* Shortfin mako and common thresher sharks are non-FSSI stocks

Fish Stock Sustainability Index – HMS & CPS



d) How well does the Center consider ecosystem and environmental factors affecting fish stocks and their assessments?

- Stay tuned for presentation 7.1 (Toby Garfield)

Strengths, Challenges, and Strategies

Strengths:

- Core species assessed as well as possible given available data
- Current staff adequate to maintain status quo level of assessment quantity & quality

Challenges:

- Additional resources needed to conduct assessments of other species
- ISC's taxonomic WGs adding more species and expectations
- Lack sufficient data and data-poor methods for some CPS & HMS stocks
- No BRPs or HCRs for HMS; true for some CPS as well
- MSE's needed, but expertise and tools currently lacking
- Additional support needed for database management and data prep
- Analysts want and need more time for research and method development

Strategies:

- Modify assessment schedules to accommodate additional and unassessed species
- Reduce reporting requirements for update assessments
- Reduce administrative and programmatic workload of current staff
- Recruit staff with technical expertise in model simulation and management strategy evaluation



Questions?

